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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Naomi NODA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1793

Application No.: 10/505,419

Examiner: C. NGUYEN

Filed: August 24, 2004

Docket No.: 120881

For: CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA COATED THEREON, CATALYST ELEMENT, AND
METHOD FOR PREPARATION OF CARRIER HAVING ALUMINA COATED
THERON

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the February 29 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect
Group I, claims 21-30, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related
that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a
search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that
the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.
See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire
application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits,
even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is
respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid
unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent
Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 26, 2008

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